

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Preliminarily, Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating the allowability of claims 35-42. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application based on the following remarks are respectfully requested. Claim 24 has been amended. Support for the amendment may be found throughout the specification. No new matter has been added. Upon entry of the above amendments claims 24, 26-27, 30-33 and 35-42 will be pending and claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9, 10, 14-18, 25, 28, 29, and 34 will stand withdrawn.

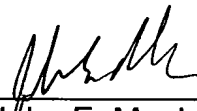
Claims 24-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,536,599 to Masuko *et al.* ("Masuko"). The amendment to claim 24 is believed to address this rejection. Specifically, in the amended claims when A is -CONR'R" and R₁, R₂ and/or R₃ are C₁-C₂₀ linear or branched alkyl, R₄, R₅ and R₆ may not be C₁-C₂₀ linear or branched alkyl or OH. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection. Furthermore, Applicants submit that withdrawn claims 25, 28 and 29 are fully embraced by and depend from claim 24, and therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner rejoin these claims and indicate their allowance.

Therefore, all objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney for Applicants at the telephone number indicated below in order to expeditiously resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: April 9, 2008